

REMARKS

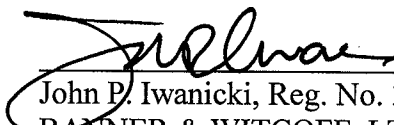
Claims 1-40 are presently pending in the application (despite the Examiner's indication that claims 1-38 are presently pending). At page 2 of the instant Office Action, the Examiner has required an election among five species of the claimed synthetic polymer, namely a) polyester, b) polycarbonate, c) polyester-carbonate, d) polyanhydride and e) polyurethane.

Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement. Applicants believe that the subject matter of the claims is interrelated to the extent that a search and examination of the species would not be overburdensome.

Nevertheless, Applicants elect the species of polyester and the subspecies recited in claim 5, namely lactide polyester, ϵ -caprolactone polyester, and glycolide polyester. Applicants believe that these species of polyester can be examined together, however, if the Examiner disagrees, Applicants elect lactide polyesters. Claims readable on these species include claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, and 40, with claim 1 being generic.

Respectfully submitted,

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